GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:549
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2007
SHORTFALL IN PADDY PROCUREMENT
Meghwal Shri Kailash;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a shortfall in paddy procurement during the Kharif marketing season 2006-07;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has decided to extend the period of giving incentive bonus over and above the Minimum Support Price for the procurement of paddy during remaining part of the season; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO. 549 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 14.05.2007 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a): Rice procurement in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2005-06 was an-all time high of 276.6 lakh tonnes while the average rice procured in the last 3 KMS was 250.6 lakh tonnes. The procurement of paddy in the current KMS 2006-07 is 223.5 lakh tonnes (as on 9.5.2007) which is 4.5 lakh tonne lower than the paddy procured in KMS 2005-06 in the corresponding period. As far as total rice procurement is concerned, the procurement of rice in KMS 2006-07 (as on 9.5.2007) is 216.7 lakh tonnes which is 16.8 lakh tonnes lower than the rice procured in the corresponding period last year.

(b): The details of state-wise procurement are enclosed at Annexure-I. The reason for less procurement in Punjab and Haryana is due to reduced production on account of less rainfall in some districts. Slow arrival of paddy in U.P. and high market prices in West Bengal have also contributed to lower procurement in KMS 2006-07.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. The Government had declared a bonus of Rs. 40/- per quintal over and above the MSP for procurement of Paddy during KMS 2006-07, which was applicable upto 31.3.2007. The same has been extended from 1.4.2007 in respect of a few states till the dates as mentioned below:-

(i) Andhra Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal	30.9.2007
(ii) Bihar and Kerala	31.5.2007